

Colorectal Cancer Key Messages

- Colorectal cancer often **has no symptoms** at early (and treatable) stages.
- The biggest risk factor for colorectal cancer is being age 50 or older.
- Both men AND women need screening beginning at age 50. (*earlier when patients have other risk factors, such as family or personal history of polyps/cancer*).
- Colorectal cancer is the 2nd leading cancer killer in Colorado as well as the United States, 2nd only to lung cancer.
- If everyone age 50 or older received regular screenings, almost two-thirds (60%) of colorectal cancer deaths could be prevented.
- Colorectal cancer touches all races and ethnicities.
- Colorectal cancer is diagnosed at later stages for both Hispanics and blacks compared with whites.
- Most insurance covers colorectal cancer screening.
- There are different options recommended for colorectal cancer screening: choose one, and get it done.